

February 13 through February 19, 2012

Weekly Highlights (February 13 through February 19, 2012)

Task Order 0036, Analytical and Laboratory Support

TDF 01076 – Provide Sample Log-in and Other Ancillary Tasks in Support for the Dimock Residential Groundwater Site (Fast Turnaround Time Analyses), Assigned 1/31/12, Due 2/1/12 – 2/10/12 or as long as the Task Order is extended – ESAT was assigned the task of performing sample log-in, sample processing support, and ancillary tasks (e.g., glassware washing, reagent prep, etc.) to support the analytical tasks for this Superfund site. In addition, ESAT may be required to provide sample preparation support. ESAT will be notified if this support is needed.

On 2/15/12, ESAT Chemist **Ex. 4 - CBI** was verbally notified by EPA WAM Kevin Martin and concurrently, ESAT Acting Program Manager **Ex. 4 - CBI** was notified via an email received from ESAT Region 3 Project Officer Colleen Walling, that Dimock Residential Groundwater Site samples would be arriving 2/16/12 and that ESAT would be performing the login for these samples under WO# 1202005. ESAT Chemist **Ex. 4 - CBI** was also informed that EPA WAM Kevin Martin would also be conducting an audit / evaluation of ESAT login procedures during this time. Given the large volume of samples received, combined with the urgency to get the samples to the EPA analysts, ESAT Analytical Group Leader **Ex. 4 - CBI** assisted with the receipt and login for these samples and also took part in the audit / evaluation.

In addition, glassware washing activities were also performed under this TDF this week. During this time, the functionality of Oven #1 was also monitored. No anomalies were observed during this period. Oven #1 appears to be fully functional.

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Task Order 0036
Task 1 - Analytical and Laboratory Support - Site Specific

WO#	TDF / TO	Site / Request #	Samples / Matrix	Assigned	Due	Submitted	Accepted	Status
1201009	01055	Boulevard Cleaners R33868	8 Air, TO-15	1/24/12	P: 2/13/12 F: 2/17/12	P: 2/9/12 F: 2/13/12	2/14/12	The final report was consolidated 2/14/12. Eight samples were received 1/23/12.
1201010	01056	Jackson Ceramics, Inc. R33871	12 Air, TO-15	1/24/12	P: 2/14/12 F: 2/16/12	P: 2/14/12 F: 2/17/12	2/17/12	Final report consolidation is currently pending. Twelve samples were received 1/24/12.
1201012	01064	Vienna Tetrachloroethene R33913	4 Air, TO-15	1/25/12	2/29/12	2/6/12	2/7/12	The final report was consolidated 2/7/12. Four samples were received 1/25/12.
1201017	01078	Standard Chlorine of Delaware, Inc. R33903	3 Air, TO-15	1/31/12	P: 2/21/12 F: 2/28/12	P: Pending F:		Three samples were received 1/31/12. Sample analyses are currently in progress.

P = Preliminary report, F = Final report

Non Responsive

Task Orders 0028, 0035 & 0036
Analytical and Laboratory Support – Non-Site Specific

Task	Description	Activity
2	Instrument Maintenance	See Task 8 below for comments relative to the new Dionex Ion Chromatograph instrument located in Room G103. All other instruments were fully functional.

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Task Orders 0028, 0035 & 0036
Analytical and Laboratory Support – Non-Site Specific

Task	Description	Activity	
3	Sample Custody	New Requests	No new requests were accepted for ESAT this week.
		Canister Deliveries	non-responsive
		ESAT Sample Receipt	No ESAT samples were received this week.
		EPA Sample Receipt	EPA Superfund samples were received by ESAT this week for Dimock Residential Groundwater (WO# 1202005).
		Report Consolidation	The final report for non-responsive WO# 1201009) was consolidated this week.
4	Glassware Cleaning and Lab Cleanliness	Both glassware washing units and Oven #2 were fully functional. Oven #1 had been taken out of service and ESC Facilities had been notified that this unit had failed to reach specified temperature. ESC Facilities performed diagnostics on the oven; however, they were unable to determine the cause of the malfunctions observed by ESAT. ESAT operated Oven #1 several times this week; no anomalies were observed. The oven appears to be fully functional.	
5	Reagents and Supplies	The weekly chemical inventory was completed 2/17/12 and the report was submitted to the PO.	
6	Lab Safety	ESAT Chemist Naomi Reid attended the ESC Waste Committee Meeting held 2/16/12 in the V/T Conference Room.	
7	Review SOPs and Guidance Documents	TDF 04096 / TO 0028, assigned 4/26/10, due 5/14/10 – This TDF specifies that ESAT shall review and provide comments / recommended changes of the draft revision (4/25/10) for SOP R3QA213, Distillation of Methylene Chloride Resulting from the Extraction of Aqueous Samples. The SOP with embedded comments and recommendations was submitted 5/14/10. ESAT is currently awaiting Agency feedback.	
8	New Capabilities/Method Development	<p>TDF 01001 / TO 0028, assigned 1/3/11, due 1/4/11 by 10:00 am – ESAT was tasked to provide a brief written description stating ESAT’s current capability for performing low-level hexavalent chromium in water analysis based on ESAT’s recent study. ESAT shall include the lowest quantitation limits achieved successfully including any issues, concerns, problems, recommendations or note-worthy comments for performing these analyses. This final report was submitted 1/3/11. ESAT is currently awaiting Agency feedback.</p> <p>TDF 03061, TO-15 Pilot Study – Draft/Verbal Technical Direction, Assigned 3/17/11, Various Interim Due Dates (Final Report Due 6/30/11) – As a result of the TO-15 Pilot Study Conference Call held 3/14/11, ESAT was assigned to complete the tasks listed below, which have been completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare a set of test bottles (1 under vacuum and 1 without vacuum) and a micro vacuum gauge with one connector for field samplers to utilize / test sample collection procedures for the Air Pilot Study by the end of the week. Sample containers shall be shipped in a shipping case.• Field Sampler will test on Friday and provide feedback / results of testing bottles.• Check with Entech to determine how existing sampling line would connect to the bottles for field sampling.• Prepare canisters (1 per location / sample station) and sample bottles (2 per station location / sample station). In addition, include a return shipping label/UPS air bill to be sent to the field samplers for sampling the first full week of April (4/4/11 thru 4/8/11) for the April sampling. Two stations were selected at the non-responsive site for the air pilot study: WSINFA and WSCARBA. <p>The analyses of air samples have been completed for the Summa canisters and amber bottles, received from the non-responsive site under DAS# R33677. A report containing a review and comparison of the results obtained from these analyses was submitted 7/13/11. The report was returned to ESAT and we are currently awaiting a feedback form from the sampler. The return of the micro-vacuum gauge is also currently pending.</p>	

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Task Orders 0028, 0035 & 0036
Analytical and Laboratory Support – Non-Site Specific

Task	Description	Activity
		TDF 10070, New Dionex Ion Chromatography (IC) Instrument Installation and Training, verbal direction issued 10/27/11, brief summary to be included in Weekly Report – ESAT was assigned the task of providing technical expertise and being present/available for the Dionex Ion Chromatography (IC) instrument installation and attending the Dionex training tentatively scheduled for November 8 and 9, 2011. ESAT may be required to provide information or answer questions relative to the operation of the IC instrumentation or the performance of IC parameters. Activities relative to the installation of the instrument were initiated 11/8/11; however, ESAT was informed by the Dionex representative that additional time (11/29-12/1/11 and beyond) was needed to complete the installation / training process. Following a visit by Dionex installation personnel completed 12/20/11, the anions component was partially operational; however, the hexavalent chromium module was non-functional. Final installation activities (including the installation of a new hexavalent chromium UV-detector) were completed w/e 1/22/12 and the instrument was declared fully functional. Although IC training was scheduled for January 24 – 25, 2012, ESAT was informed via an email from EPA WAM John Curry, dated January 20, 2012, that the IC training would be postponed because of a large and very important sampling event scheduled to occur during this period. John Curry contacted Thermo-Fisher's representatives to inform them of the postponement and ESAT will be notified once a new date can be scheduled.
9	Quality Assurance Compliance and Documentation	<p>No documents were received by ESAT for login this week.</p> <p>TDF 12064 – Prepare Listing of Cases/DASs & Sample Numbers for Disposal – Stored in Refrigerator as a Result of Litigation Holds, assigned 12/20/11, summary report due 1/20/12 – ESAT was given direction to complete the following tasks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ESAT is to determine and prepare a listing of the sites and associated sample numbers for cases/DASs that are being stored in the ESAT sample refrigerator located in Room J102 that may be ready for disposal depending on the status of the litigation holds for each site in question.• ESAT will submit copies of the report to EPA Laboratory Branch Chief Cynthia Caporale, EPA Records Manager Annette Lage, EPA WAMs Kevin Martin and John Curry, and EPA Technical Services Branch Chief Fred Foreman. <p>The summary report, submitted 1/18/12, was accepted 1/31/12.</p> <p>On 1/6/12, the ESAT PO gave ESAT verbal technical direction via an email to perform the annual EDD check for each method/matrix that they currently report. Activities relative to this task are currently in progress.</p>